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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 47th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. AL-SHAALI (United Arab Emirates)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 98: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS (continued) (A/46/67, 70, A/46/71-E/1991/9, A/46/72, 81, 83, 85, 95, 96, 99, 117, 121, 135, A/46/166-E/1991/71, A/46/183, A/46/184-E/1991/81, A/46/205, 210, 226, 260, 270, 273, 290, A/46/292-S/22769, A/46/294, A/46/304-S/22796, A/46/312, 327, 331, 332, 351, 367, 402, 424, 467, 485, A/46/486-S/23055, A/46/493, 526, 582, 587, A/46/598-S/23166; A/C.3/46/L.25)

(b) HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS (continued) (A/46/3 (chap. VI, sect. C), 24, 420-422, 473, 504, 542, 543, 603, 609 and Add.1, 616; A/C.3/46/L.2, L.3)

(c) HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES (continued) (A/46/3 (chap. VI, sect. C), 401, 446, 529, 544, 606, 647)

1. Mr. AMNEUS (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, said that the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 would offer an important opportunity to take stock of the achievements and shortcomings of the United Nations in the field of human rights. Events in recent years had clearly demonstrated the vital relationship between human rights, democracy and social development. The Nordic countries attached great importance to the Conference, which should lead to real improvements for individual human beings all over the world. The achievements with regard to standard-setting had been impressive. The emphasis must now be placed on implementation. The human rights situation in the world remained very alarming and many violations, such as extrajudicial executions, torture and involuntary disappearances, continued to occur.

2. He stressed the need for universal adherence to the United Nations human rights covenants and other relevant conventions. States parties must fulfil their obligations completely, including reporting obligations and financial responsibilities. Reservations to human rights treaties must be limited as far as possible, regularly reviewed and, when feasible, withdrawn. The Nordic countries supported the endeavours to improve the reporting procedures and looked forward to further efforts in that area. The dissemination of information about human rights was of vital importance. The World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights had been of great value and further efforts should be encouraged in the context of the 1993 World Conference.

3. Consensus was of vital importance for the success of the Conference. The Centre for Human Rights, the treaty-monitoring bodies and all other United Nations organs concerned must participate fully in the preparatory work. The Conference should be viewed as an opportunity to enhance the human rights dimension within the overall work of the Organization.

4. Elaborating the Conference's final document was the most important task

(Mr. Amneus, Sweden)

for the Preparatory Committee. The relationship between human rights, democracy and development should be one of the main themes, since respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms constituted the basis of a democratic society. Serious human rights violations which continued in defiance of clear and universally accepted standards should be given priority attention. Improved mechanisms were needed to address grave human rights violations, and the relationship between such violations and refugee flows should be further considered.

5. The preparatory process and the Conference itself should encourage the work of existing human rights bodies, particularly the Commission on Human Rights, and should also seek to improve the human rights monitoring mechanisms set up by the United Nations.

6. Non-governmental organizations played an indispensable role in drawing attention to serious human rights violations and could make a valuable contribution to the Conference. It was essential to provide sufficient financial and human resources to enable the Centre for Human Rights to carry out the necessary work of organizing the Conference. The Nordic countries intended to contribute in the near future to the cost of participation by representatives of least developed countries in the preparatory meetings and the Conference itself.

7. Mr. SCHERK (Austria) said that the United Nations should be able to react quickly to serious human rights abuses and prevent an escalation of such violations. Austria had proposed that the Commission on Human Rights should adopt an emergency procedure based on a permanent register of experts at its disposal. As part of an intersessional emergency procedure, the Commission would send a team of three experts to the country concerned to investigate reports of massive human rights violations. The team would then submit a report containing conclusions and recommendations to the Commission in order to initiate speedy action. The report of the experts and comments by the Government concerned would be put on the agenda of the Commission or the General Assembly, which would decide on follow-up measures. Austria intended to submit a more detailed proposal for such an emergency procedure to the Commission at its next session.

8. The report on the situation of human rights in Kuwait under Iraqi occupation (A/46/544) highlighted, inter alia, widespread summary executions, the systematic use of torture and wanton destruction of property by Iraqi occupation forces. His delegation was particularly concerned about the fate of hundreds of Kuwaitis and other nationals who had been arrested by Iraqi occupying forces and were still not accounted for. The Government of Iraq should provide information on all persons who had been deported from Kuwait and were still detained and should release them without delay. Furthermore, the human rights of all persons living in Kuwait, regardless of their nationality or origin, should be guaranteed.

(Mr. Scherk, Austria)

9. His delegation had repeatedly expressed its grave concern about the human rights situation in Iraq. The frequent reports about massive human rights violations were indeed very disturbing. Austria urged the Government of Iraq to extend full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to provide the Commission on Human Rights with a complete assessment of the situation. The fate of the Kurdish people in several countries in the region warranted continued special attention. The underlying cause of the tragedy of the Kurdish people - their struggle for their rights and the preservation of their identity - had still not been addressed.

10. The international community was disturbed by reports about the large number of death penalties and executions carried out in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the situation of the country's religious minorities. The Special Rapporteur must be allowed to visit that country without delay in order to ascertain whether any progress had been made with regard to the recommendations contained in his earlier report. The Iranian Government should permit the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to visit prisons in the country in accordance with an agreement based on standard ICRC modalities.

11. The report on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (A/46/606) clearly showed that the key to ensuring respect for the human rights of the Afghan people was a political settlement of the armed conflict providing for the return of Afghan refugees. The continued occurrence of summary executions and torture as well as indiscriminate acts of retaliation by both sides and the detention of a large number of political prisoners were very disturbing. His delegation also reiterated its serious concern at the persistent human rights problems in the Arab territories occupied by Israel as well as the situation in South Africa.

12. Austria was gravely concerned about the continued disregard on the part of the military Government of Myanmar for the results of the free elections in May 1990 and about the serious human rights violations in that country. He called upon the authorities in Myanmar to enter into a dialogue with the opposition and free all political prisoners. Myanmar should allow the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights to exercise his mandate without restrictions. Austria had learned with great regret about the recent events in East Timor, where a number of demonstrators had been killed by soldiers. He welcomed the fact that the Indonesian Government had entrusted the Commission with the task of investigating the violence. The human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was also cause for serious concern. According to various reports, that country denied its citizens fundamental human rights, including freedom of opinion and due process of law. His delegation hoped that the emerging peace in Cambodia would lead to the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Cambodian people.

13. The report on the situation of human rights in El Salvador (A/46/529) pointed to the continuation of very serious abuses. Austria urgently called

(Mr. Scherk, Austria)

on both sides in the armed conflict to achieve speedy and successful results in their negotiations, which were indispensable for the eradication of human rights violations in that country. Austria had repeatedly expressed its profound concern about the situation of human rights in Guatemala. Reports from that country indicated that the situation had not improved. Massacres, extrajudicial execution, torture, disappearances and attacks against the civilian population must be halted. The negotiations between the Government and the opposition forces should end the internal armed conflict and lead to concrete measures for the protection of human rights.

14. The recent military coup d'état in Haiti, which had abruptly halted that country's transition to democracy, had been rightly condemned by the international community. Reports about numerous serious human rights violations in the aftermath of the coup were deeply disturbing. Austria once again appealed to those in power to return to democratic legality and ensure strict observance of human rights.

15. The armed conflict in Yugoslavia had led to massive violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial executions and attacks on the civilian population. Austria strongly appealed to all sides in that conflict to adhere strictly to the principles of humanitarian law. The example of Yugoslavia clearly demonstrated the need to guarantee the rights of all national groups within a given territory. Respecting the rights of minorities was of crucial importance for international peace. Minorities must be able to participate effectively in the affairs of the countries in which they lived. Underprivileged groups in society needed special protection in addition to measures to prevent discrimination. With that in mind, Austria welcomed the completion of the draft body of principles for the protection of persons with mental illness and for the improvement of mental health care and looked forward to their adoption by the General Assembly.

16. Mr. ARRIA (Venezuela) underscored the tragic human rights situation in Haiti, where a small group had overthrown the constitutionally elected Government of President Aristide. In order to protect human rights and promote democracy, substantial cooperation was needed in improving living standards. The international community's concern at the fate of the Haitian people seemed to have dissipated after the completion of the electoral process in that country. That process, however, was only a first step towards democratization and the enjoyment of freedoms. The United Nations should continue its efforts to enable that country to restore its legitimate authorities, who required the same support demonstrated in other extreme cases in other regions of the world. Those authorities had been expelled and Haitian citizens had been deprived of their rights. Venezuela appealed to the international community to defend those rights. The persons seeking to escape oppression and human rights violations in Haiti should not be considered "economic refugees". That problem must be dealt with collectively on a humanitarian and non-discriminatory basis.

17. Venezuela, together with other countries in the region, had assumed its responsibility to receive a large number of Haitian refugees and hoped that

(Mr. Arria, Venezuela)

other nations would demonstrate their solidarity and act in the same way. Respect for human rights could not be ensured on the basis of geographical priorities and distinctions between small countries and large ones. Such a double standard was immoral and unacceptable in a new international order.

18. Mr. PIZA-ROCAFORT (Costa Rica) said that, in the view of his Government, human rights were not simply the internal affair of States, and action taken to protect human rights did not constitute interference. Part of the principle of the self-determination of peoples was the right of a people, enshrined in article 21 (c) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to choose its leaders in free elections. The self-determination of peoples was in keeping with the principle of non-interference in domestic affairs when a sovereign State and its Government legitimately represented the rights of the people; thus, as important as it had been in the struggle against colonialism and other forms of foreign occupation, self-determination could not serve as a pretext for opposing progress in the field of human rights, democracy and free elections.

19. Costa Rica had made human rights a pillar of its foreign policy long before it had become fashionable to do so. The American Convention on Human Rights bore the name of Costa Rica's capital, and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights had their headquarters in his country. Costa Rica recognized the applicability of international human rights instruments in its domestic law.

20. His delegation welcomed the initiative to hold a World Conference on Human Rights in Berlin in 1993. Costa Rica would be hosting the regional preparatory meetings for Latin America and the Caribbean, but would be unable to defer their costs without United Nations assistance.

21. The World Conference must aim to improve mechanisms for promoting and protecting human rights, instead of producing new declarations. Redundancy must also be avoided, and in that context, his delegation applauded the efforts to coordinate existing human rights bodies.

22. Costa Rica suggested reviving the idea of creating the post of high commissioner for human rights, and also an international court of human rights modelled on the European Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; it also favoured preparing protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights that would address human rights questions. It was to be hoped that those proposals could be discussed at the World Conference.

23. Mr. NIETO (Argentina) said that his Government attached particular importance to the World Conference on Human Rights and to the preparations for that event.

24. In the view of Argentina, the protection and promotion of human rights within national borders were the special responsibility of the State

(Mr. Nieto, Argentina)

concerned. That was not an issue when the State was able to end violations of human rights. When, however, it did not have the means to address violations and was therefore unable to comply with its international obligations, it must be asked whether the international community should not take steps to correct the situation. Peace-keeping and international security, the economic and social development of peoples, and the effective promotion of human rights could not be regarded in isolation from one another; tension or instability in one of those areas could have a heavy impact on the others. In that context, the human rights of national minorities, whether within or outside their State of reference, were just as important as those of that State's majority population.

25. The democratization of the countries of Latin America and other regions of the world had enhanced political pluralism and the realization of the civil and political rights of peoples. In that connection, Argentina regretted the recent events in Haiti and hoped that the constitutionally elected authorities could return to office without delay.

26. The United Nations and regional organizations must provide the technical election assistance that their Member States needed. The mechanism for approving such assistance must be flexible enough to respond to requests with the necessary speed. The experience of the Organization in the field of election assistance in Namibia and Nicaragua must be drawn upon and broadened in Western Sahara and Cambodia.

27. Mr. WISNUMURTI (Indonesia) said that the Declaration on the Right to Development had proclaimed that development was an inalienable human right and that all human rights were indivisible and interdependent. The right to development encompassed the right to education and other economic and social rights, as well as civil and political rights. The international community had thus recognized the need for a balance between the rights of the individual and the duties of the individual to respect the rights of society. Thus, emphasis could not be placed on one category of rights to the exclusion of others.

28. The level of development of a given country was essential in determining which aspects of human rights were of primary concern. In some countries, the social foundation had been firmly laid, enabling the people to turn their immediate concerns to civil and political liberties. In many parts of the world, however, people were struggling for their daily existence, a situation made even more difficult by an inequitable international order and debt-servicing burdens that kept them impoverished. Hence the acute need to strengthen multilateral economic cooperation and revitalize development, which would create an environment in which human rights could thrive. In the developing countries, social, economic and cultural rights addressed the more immediate tangible needs for food, shelter, medicine and education. Indonesia recognized, however, that no category of rights could be secured or protected in isolation.

(Mr. Wisnumurti, Indonesia)

29. Unfortunately, the issue of human rights had often been misused to advance politically motivated agendas with little real concern for promoting human rights. There was a tendency to use the protection of human rights as an excuse for imposing value systems alien to the traditions and cultures of the countries concerned. Such efforts, based on ulterior motives and self-righteous attitudes, would only serve to harden positions and block improvement of human rights. Ultimately, the promotion and protection of human rights remained the responsibility of each Government. That competence derived not only from the principle of national sovereignty but also from the inherent right of all peoples to their national and cultural identity and the right of nations to determine freely their own political, economic and social systems.

30. Turning to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, he said his delegation supported its action-oriented approach and recognized the importance of disseminating human rights information as a key element in the efforts to implement human rights standards more effectively. Another positive approach was to strengthen institution-building for human rights at both national and regional levels. The establishment of regional arrangements to advance respect for human rights would prove useful, because they would function as a natural conduit for facilitating compliance by Governments and national institutions with international human rights norms. In that connection, Indonesia would be hosting a regional workshop on human rights in Jakarta in December 1991, at which time recommendations for regional and subregional arrangements in the Asian and Pacific region would be forthcoming. In January 1991, a national workshop on human rights had been held with the cooperation of the Centre for Human Rights, and as a follow-up to its recommendations, an inter-agency working group had been established with a view to creating a national commission for human rights in Indonesia.

31. While underscoring the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of human rights issues, Indonesia reaffirmed its commitment to safeguarding human rights. The United Nations remained the best vehicle to that end.

32. Mr. LONGCHAMP (Haiti) said that his delegation was glad to see the question of human rights becoming increasingly important at the United Nations and felt a duty to inform the world body of the great tragedy the Haitian people were now suffering. The coup d'état of 30 September 1991, in putting a violent end to the democratic process, had ushered in one of the darkest episodes in the history of human rights in Haiti. The number and frequency of grave violations of human rights had never been paralleled even under the dictatorship of the Duvaliers. Summary executions, arbitrary arrest and detention, torture, searches without any warrant, rape, sacking of public and private buildings, restrictions on fundamental freedoms: the list was long and growing daily.

33. The situation was alarming in more than one way: not only were the people subject to physical violence, but there also seemed to be a plan to

(Mr. Longchamp, Haiti)

establish permanent repressive structures. For instance, the infamous "section chiefs" had reappeared and had resumed their reign of terror among the rural population with the knowledge and consent of the de facto government.

34. The events in Haiti were in flagrant violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which had been ratified by Haiti on 6 February 1991, and of the 1987 Constitution.

35. He gave several examples of violations of article 6 of the Covenant, which stated that "no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life". For instance, journalists had recently found the bodies of seven youths on the roadside near a site that had long been used by the Duvaliers to burn the bodies of their victims. On the same day, a security guard at the American Embassy had been killed at 3 a.m., when only soldiers or their civilian allies could have been in the neighbourhood.

36. In addition, article 7 of the Covenant, stating that "no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment", had repeatedly been violated. For instance, on 7 October 1991, the freely elected mayor of Port-au-Prince, Evans Paul, had been illegally arrested, beaten and detained by Haitian soldiers. He had gone to the international airport to catch a plane for Caracas, Venezuela, to meet President Aristide, and had been personally given a safe conduct by the Chief of the junta. None the less, soldiers had stripped Mr. Paul in the presence of journalists and of a delegation of the Organization of American States and had beaten him with their helmets, their revolvers and their hands and had burned him with a red-hot rifle barrel. The mayor had spent several days in prison, without ever being charged, before being released. Again, at Hinche, several members of a peasant movement had been arrested in mid-September and beaten by soldiers at the local prison; members of the movement had been particular targets of the Haitian armed forces because of their firm support for President Aristide.

37. There had been many cases of arbitrary arrest and detention, in violation of article 9 of the Covenant. Manno Charlemagne, a popular singer and supporter of President Aristide, had been arrested on 11 October when the army found out where he was hiding. A court later declared his arrest illegal, but as he was being released armed men in civilian clothes had kidnapped him and returned him to the penitentiary, from which he had again been released on 25 October. He had then taken refuge in an embassy.

38. On 15 November, a group of soldiers had entered Cité Soleil, a noted pro-Aristide neighbourhood, and begun arresting young people on the pretext that they were about to leave the country as "boat people". The youths had been severely beaten and forced to denounce other persons who might be planning to leave the country. According to eyewitness reports, 40 youths had been arrested and were still being held.

(Mr. Longchamp, Haiti)

39. The provisions of article 19 of the Covenant, on freedom of expression and freedom of the press, had been violated in innumerable attacks on radio stations in Port-au-Prince. For instance, on 30 September soldiers had destroyed Radio Caraïbes and killed its owner. Radio Lumière, the voice of the Protestant Church in Haiti, had also been closed down after broadcasting news of a massacre of civilians by the army, and Radio Métropole had been obliged to stop broadcasting news in mid-November. In another incident, eight journalists covering a student rally on 12 November had been arrested at the same time as the students. They had been released after being held without charge for several hours, but their equipment - tape recorders, cameras and notebooks - had been destroyed by the soldiers.

40. No legal action had ever been taken against those responsible. The armed forces were continuing to carry out arbitrary attacks on the civilian population, as in the past, with impunity and complete disregard for the law. The fierce repression of the people of Haiti was already having disastrous consequences beyond its borders. Thousands of Haitians were braving the dangers of the Caribbean or the Atlantic on frail sailing vessels in a desperate attempt to escape the massacres being carried out by the army and the de facto government. Some had been resettled in other countries, but it was deplorable that 538 refugees had been returned to Haiti, where their security was by no means guaranteed. The decision to send Haitian refugees back en masse could only be interpreted as a refusal to grant to Haitians, as to others, the political and economic rights and the protections provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

41. It should be noted that during the seven months of the Aristide Government, the number of boat people had greatly diminished; although economic conditions had not yet greatly changed, Haitians, having recovered their pride, had decided to stay home.

42. No forum could be better than the Third Committee for bringing to the attention of the international community the extreme seriousness of the situation in Haiti. The election won by President Aristide with 67 per cent of the vote had been carried out under United Nations supervision, and with the new emphasis in the United Nations on the new international order and on periodic democratic elections, a handful of armed men could not be allowed to foil the effort to make Haiti a democratic society based on political participation, social and economic justice and respect for fundamental freedoms.

43. The Secretary-General had addressed that question eloquently in his annual report on the work of the Organization (A/46/1): "The case for not impinging on the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States is by itself indubitably strong. But it would only be weakened if it were to carry the implication that sovereignty, even in this day and age, includes the right of mass slaughter or of launching systematic campaigns of decimation or forced exodus of civilian populations in the name of controlling civil strife or insurrection."

(Mr. Longchamp, Haiti)

44. The same circumstances of insecurity and violation of human rights that had led the United Nations to assist in and supervise the electoral process in Haiti still prevailed there. The international community could not stand idly by while the Haitian armed forces executed, tortured, arrested and beat the civilian population. His Government appealed to the Third Committee to condemn with all its authority the gross violations of human rights taking place in Haiti.

45. Mr. AKSIN (Turkey), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation considered the reference made at an earlier meeting by the representative of the Netherlands to the findings of the Committee against Torture with regard to Turkey totally unjustified. Turkey was aware of its shortcomings and was striving to improve the situation in police stations and prisons throughout the land. But the observation about Turkey could be made about almost all countries, including several members of the European Community. In the field of human rights, no one could claim perfection.

46. Turkey was a party to all the European instruments on human rights as well as to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It had submitted its initial report under article 19 of the Convention and had made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22. Turkey had been making steady progress in eliminating the odious practice, which was against its laws. Many individuals were serving prison terms for having violated the law against the use of torture in interrogation. New legislation had been enacted which would protect detainees from abuses. The new coalition Government was changing legislation to ensure greater respect for human rights, which included amending the Constitution to secure a freer society.

47. Against that background of solid progress achieved by a democratic and pluralistic society, it was difficult to understand the reason for making reference to Turkey in that context. His delegation welcomed the debate on the world-wide human rights situation, but it would have expected the debate to reflect his country's steady progress and to provide encouragement. Instead of providing such encouragement, reference was made to Turkey in a negative manner at a time when the country was poised to make further improvements in its human rights performance, and could already serve as a model for many other countries. His delegation considered the position taken by the European Community to be incomprehensible, unwarranted and unjust.

48. Mr. OULD MOHAMED LEMINE (Mauritania), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation shared the concern for the defence of human rights expressed by the representative of Norway at an earlier meeting. However, he did not understand the basis on which the representative felt he could judge another State, as his own was not exempt from criticism. Since the representative of Norway was well informed, he must be aware of the progress recently made in Mauritania.

(Mr. Ould Mohamed Lemine, Mauritania)

49. The international community should, indeed, be attentive to the human rights situation throughout the world, but criticisms had not been based on the actual situation in Mauritania. A new, democratic Constitution had been instituted recently and legislation provided freedom for all political parties and freedom of expression. Amnesty had been declared for all political prisoners and exiles, as the participation of all was needed in the construction of a new system of government. A schedule of free elections had also been drawn up. Those events represented the highest aspirations of the Mauritanian people and were the final stage of a process under way since independence.

50. Mr. HUSSEIN (Iraq), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the United States acted as though it was responsible for protecting human rights throughout the world. If the representative of the United States had forgotten the dumping of tons of bombs on Iraqi civilians, the Iraqi people had not. The United States attitude was demonstrated by Security Council resolution 712 (1991), which did not provide Iraq with all the goods it needed for humanitarian purposes. The purpose of such resolutions was to put Iraqi wealth and resources under United States control, under the pretext of protecting the Iraqi people. The United States would use as a new pretext for intervention the right of human rights interference, part of the new world order discussed by the United States representative. The international community should be aware of what to expect from that new world order.

51. With regard to the statement by the representative of Austria concerning the Kurds, there was no discrimination in Iraq. All its peoples were working together to overcome the problems they faced and were trying to preserve national unity. Dialogue had recently begun with the Kurds. The Shiite population in southern Iraq was also not subject to any discrimination.

52. Mr. HUN (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that, with regard to the statement made by the representative of Austria at an earlier meeting, his delegation had felt that he was the judge, and it the accused. In the United Nations, all Member States had equal status; there were no superior or inferior Members. He urged that an objective attitude be taken towards sources of information on human rights issues, since many criticized other countries' political systems. An attitude such as that taken by the representative of Austria could be misleading and would bring about discord and misunderstanding rather than creating understanding and cooperation. His delegation denied the groundless and politically motivated statement.

53. Mr. MORA GODOY (Cuba), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the statement made at an earlier meeting by the representative of the United States with regard to the human rights situation in Cuba could be characterized as arrogant, lying, ignorant and hypocritical. As though he spoke for a great empire, the United States representative had insulted the Government of Cuba without making reference to the human rights situation of

(Mr. Mora Godoy, Cuba)

millions of Americans living in poverty and inequity. He insulted the intelligence of the Committee when he said that his Government desired universal peace. It desired a "pax americana" which would impose its patterns and processes on the world. It was attempting to turn disinformation about Cuba into reality by repeating false statements often enough that they would eventually be believed. He invited anyone to visit Cuba and observe its system and its development efforts for themselves.

54. The United States attempted to impose its so-called democracy and freedoms on the world, but its Government was actually an aristocracy, a government of the few, and not necessarily of the best. The wish of the United States representative to see a free Cuba represented in the United Nations was naive. Cuba had become free, independent and sovereign 30 years earlier as a result of its revolution.

AGENDA ITEM 96: NARCOTIC DRUGS (continued) (A/C.3/46/L.22, L.31, L.32, L.33)

Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.22

55. The CHAIRMAN said that Guatemala and Vanuatu had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

56. Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.22 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.31

57. The CHAIRMAN said that Ecuador, Luxembourg, Myanmar, the Philippines, Romania, Samoa, Trinidad and Tobago, the USSR and Vanuatu had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

58. Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.31 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.33

59. The CHAIRMAN said that Austria, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Japan, Nigeria, Samoa, the USSR and Vanuatu had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

60. Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.33 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.32

61. The CHAIRMAN said that Samoa, Trinidad and Tobago, Madagascar and Vanuatu had become sponsors of the draft resolution. He recalled that at the 45th meeting, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the sponsors, had orally revised the draft resolution.

62. Mrs. SHERMAN-PETER (Bahamas) said that the sponsors had agreed on further revisions to the draft resolution to make it more accurate and to enable the Committee to adopt it by consensus. The sponsors proposed that in order to bring the 18th preambular paragraph into line with the relevant resolution of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, it should be reworded to read: "Bearing in mind that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs has decided to consider the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Expert Group, together with the comments of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and to report on its consideration to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council,".

63. In paragraph 2 of Part II, after the words "invitation to", she proposed that a comma and the words "and takes note of the decision of,", should be inserted. She also proposed certain other minor drafting changes.

64. Draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.32, as orally revised, was adopted.

65. Mr. MOK (Israel) said that his delegation would have liked more attention to be paid to the problem of illicit drug trafficking, especially in draft resolutions A/C.3/46/L.32 and L.33. The transit of illicit drugs was a particular problem; Israel was a transit centre for drug traffickers, and was hardly the only country in that case. Many countries were vulnerable to illicit transit traffic. There should be specific provisions for the protection of those countries. He hoped the Committee would incorporate the troubling question of transit countries in its future resolutions. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNIDCP) should as soon as possible make the matter an integral part of its work to combat the drug menace.

66. Mr. MARKS (United States of America) said that he had two comments on draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.32. His delegation took it that paragraph 13 was not calling for special analyses to be undertaken, but only for existing programmes to keep the stated concerns in mind during their normal activities. With respect to paragraph 2 of part II, his delegation thought that the last part of the paragraph prejudged the approach that might be taken by UNIDCP, and would have preferred that no reference should be made to appropriate follow-up activity.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.